

# HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

## MINUTES

Thursday, October 22, 2009

### Members:

Lee Bixson  
Craig Blomberg  
Arthur Clinton  
Nico De Anda-Scaia  
Justin Kudo (Vice Chair)  
Najme Minhaj (Chair)  
Ann Privateer  
J Jesus Leyva (Alternate)

### Ex Officio Members:

Saraf Nawar (Student)  
John Pamperin (Faith-based)  
Rahim Reed (UCD)  
Lt. Tom Waltz (Police Dept)  
Vacant (ASUCD)  
Pamela Mari/Mel Lewis  
(DJUSD)

### Council Liaisons:

Stephen Souza  
Lamar Heystek (Alternate)

### Staff

Kelly Stachowicz, City

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## **I. Roll Call and Approval of Agenda (6:30)**

*Members Present: Blomberg, Clinton, De Anda, Minhaj, Privateer, Leyva*

*Voting Members Absent: Bixson, Kudo*

*Minhaj called the meeting to order at 6:37pm. Blomberg moved and De Anda seconded a motion to approve the agenda. Motion passed unanimously.*

## **II. Approval of Minutes – September 24, 2009**

*Minutes incomplete. Staff will finalize draft and bring back to Commission at November meeting.*

## **III. Public Comment -**

*There was no public comment.*

## **IV. Commissioner Communications and Announcements**

- *Blomberg shared a copy of "The Spare Changer," a newsletter printed and sold by the homeless population.*
- *Privateer asked if \$100,000 from Target could be used to have homeless display art in vacant store windows.*
- *De Anda asked if same funds could be used for an ethnic event downtown. Commission asked for this issue to be agendized for the November meeting.*
- *Clinton mentioned that he volunteers with a group called "Daddy's Here" which helps dads get time with their kids. Noted that kids who score low on tests and in school often do not have a father figure present.*
- *Reed noted that October is Disability Awareness Month. Campus earlier had an event regarding mental disability. Also noted that the Campus Community Book Project is well underway and encouraged the participation of Commissioners.*
- *Clinton would like an update from DJUSD at a future meeting.*

## **V. Council Communications and Staff Announcements**

*Stachowicz provided an update on the Ombudsman role and position. Reed suggested that Ombudsman reach out every few years to the UCD population, since it turns over frequently, and they may not know about the Ombudsman resource. Staff will check with on campus groups and encourage Ombudsman to visit groups as his schedule permits.*

## **VI. Discussion/Action Items**

### **C. Martin Luther King Day Celebration**

- *Commission discussed where to hold Martin Luther King Day Celebration, since part of the Varsity will be under construction. Commission decided by consensus to continue to hold the celebration at the Varsity, since it is located downtown and is better for the march.*
- *Commission asked that staff increase communications with DJUSD regarding the secondary school essay*
- *The Subcommittee for planning will be Nico de Anda, Craig Blomberg, Jesus Leyva and Saraf Nawar. Ann Privateer will help as well (but cannot be on the subcommittee due to quorum and Brown Act restrictions unless another member decides not to participate).*

### **A. Diversity and Discrimination Survey**

- *Stachowicz provided an update on the survey, which is both online and available in hard copy.*
- *Leyva and de Anda agreed to translate the survey into Spanish.*
- *The Commission discussed means of outreach for the survey to include web, press release, radio, word of mouth, etc. Commission agreed by consensus on draft wording in press release. Reed suggested information be sent directly to Tammy McNiff in his office on campus. Blomberg reiterated his suggestion to send survey to faith-based organizations. Staff will ask Justin to put the survey on daviswiki.*
- *The survey will be open until November 30. Commission will determine in November whether to extend deadline for survey based on number of responses.*

### **B. Review of Diversity and Discrimination Report – Housing**

- *Staff reviewed the section on Housing and explained the progress made since the 2000 update of the Racial Issues Report. In most areas, the City has implemented the recommendations related to Housing and has an aggressive affordable housing program in place.*
- *Blomberg stated that Commission doesn't want to use existing format but that it would be good to explain the City's recent successes related to housing.*
- *Blomberg and Clinton questioned whether or not there was a gap in housing in Davis-between "affordable" housing and the next step up, perhaps there is a gap in the inventory of market-based properties. Staff will do some research to see if City has that information.*

## **VII. Updates**

### **• Middle East Tree Planting**

*Commission set a tentative date of Saturday November 14 at 11:00 am for ceremonial tree planting and dedication. Staff and subcommittee will work to produce the event.*

*Commission agreed to move November meeting to November 19, since regular meeting time conflicts with Thanksgiving. Commission agreed to tentatively hold December meeting (if meeting necessary) on December 17, since regular meeting time conflicts with winter holidays.*

**VIII. Adjourn**

*Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm.*